

REMARKS

Counsel thanks Primary Examiner J. Carlson for the courtesy of an interview held on February 3, 2010.

Applicants further note, with appreciation, Mr. Carlson's indication that the instant application would be favorably considered if the independent claims are amended to include the feature of claim 4 found at the first paragraph on page 5 of the July 7, 2009 Amendment. The foregoing amendments have been introduced accordingly.

Specifically, independent claims 1, 3, and 12 have been amended to include the feature of claim 4 as suggested by the Primary Examiner. Claim 4 is believed to be allowable as is. Several dependent claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to simplify the issues. All claims have been carefully reviewed for potential informalities.

Accordingly, all claims in the present application are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under *37 C.F.R. 1.136* is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Serial No. 09/763,141

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 25, 2010

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